

Middlesex/Union Counties ALB Infestation

As of June 9, 6,327 trees have been removed from the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine area. Of those, 515 were infested host trees and 5,812 were high-risk exposed host trees. Crews continued removing trees this week in areas of Rahway and Carteret. Currently, 30 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, NJ Forest Service are performing survey, control and regulatory activities. To date 18,288 host trees have been surveyed.

As of June 9, 4,322 trees have been treated with imidacloprid in the Middlesex/Union Counties ALB quarantine area; 4,005 by soil injection and 317 by trunk injection. Approximately 20,000 trees will be treated with the insecticide by the time treatment is completed. The insecticide is being injected into the tree's trunk or into the soil surrounding the tree. The treatment is a preventive measure aimed at host trees currently deemed to be at low risk of infestation.

The New Jersey State Forest Service's landscaping contractor has completed the spring planting of non-host trees in the Carteret and Woodbridge areas of the removal zone. A total of 688 trees were planted; 565 in Carteret and 123 in Woodbridge. The New Jersey State Forest Service is planning to plant an additional 2,000 non-host trees in the fall within the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine area.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture has written each member of the state's Congressional delegation to ask that they pursue increased federal funding for ALB eradication in the FY2006 federal budget. Currently, the President's budget calls for \$15 million nationally for the ALB eradication program, a substantial decrease from the \$30 million appropriated nationally in FY2005.

Jersey City/Hoboken ALB Infestation

Five program personnel, along with five temporary summer hire employees, are performing survey and regulatory activities in the Jersey City/Hoboken ALB quarantine area. To date, 1,671 host trees have been surveyed with no signs of ALB infestations.

Public Outreach:

Barry Emens, USDA-APHIS ALB New Jersey Program Director, worked with personnel from TruGreen ChemLawn on an educational ALB training video for their employees. The video covered the biology of the ALB, survey and detection methods, dealing with the public and working with program cooperators.